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DIARY NOTES

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17 July 1961

1. Ed Saunders received a telephone call from Sam Crosby, staff member of the House Committee on Appropriations, who said the Committee had received reports that "the U-2 flights over Cuba last week revealed missile bases under construction." Mr. Crosby requested that he be briefed on this subject. I took this up at the Deputies' Meeting this morning and Mr. Bissell undertook to designate someone to brief Mr. Crosby on what we knew about this subject; it was also agreed that we should tell Bob Smart of the House Committee on Armed Services the same thing that we tell Sam Crosby. Mr. Kirkpatrick agreed to assume responsibility for following through on this and I advised Ed Saunders accordingly. However, through some misunderstanding Crosby was not briefed today, the seventeenth of July, and I have asked Kirk to take it up with Dick again. Presumably it will be done in the course of the day on the eighteenth of July.

2. At the Deputies' Meeting this morning:

a. I tried again without success to get approval for the exposed badge system in the new building. No one had any good reason for not wanting this system; it is the administrative inconvenience which does not appeal to very many people. It was agreed that we should circulate a paper on this subject to the Deputy Directors for their comment. Therefore, I have returned the original Office of Security paper to suggesting that he beef up his arguments and at the same time personally hand carry the paper to Bob Amory and Dick Bissell to see whether he can get their concurrences.

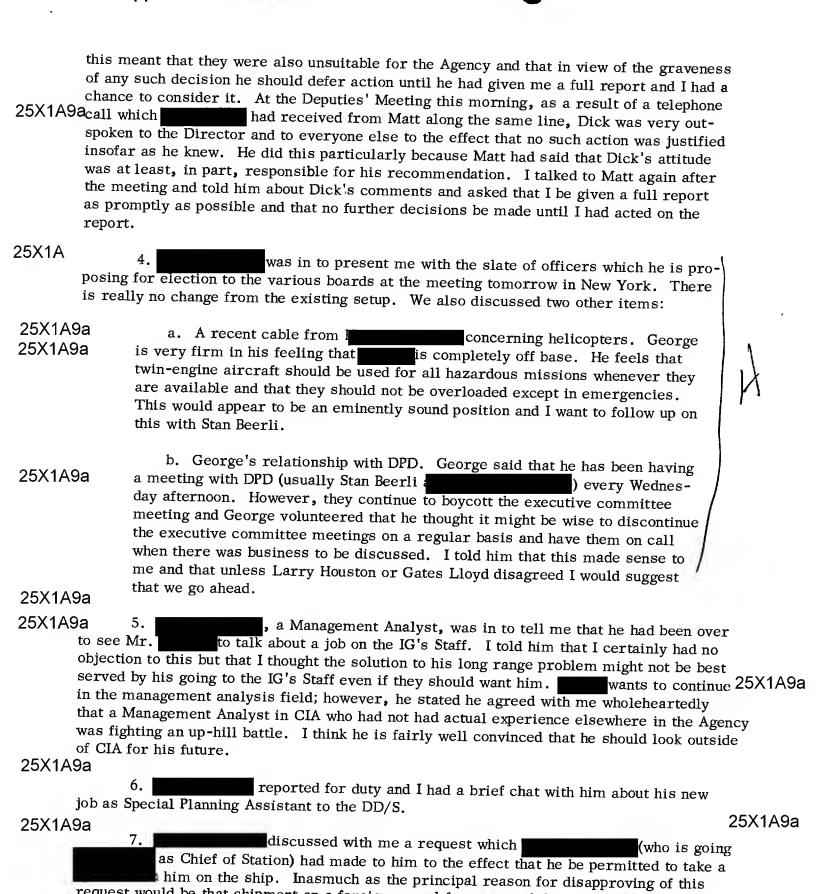
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b. I queried the Director and Dick Bissell as to whether they had received any further indication from Elmer Staats about the release of funds for July and August to support certain continuing costs growing out of Mr. Bissell indicated that the release of these funds had not yet been approved by Mr. Staats.

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- c. Bob Amory expressed some concern about the recent publicity in the WALL STREET JOURNAL and THE NEW YORK TIMES concerning our Project WALNUT. While it was agreed generally that IBM had gone too far in these articles, it was also agreed that this was a plus for the Agency.
- 3. Matt Baird telephoned me this morning to say that as a result of his investigation of the pranksters among the JOT's he was going to recommend that ten of these JOT's be declared unsuitable for the Clandestine Services. I told him that, of course,

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request would be that shipment on a foreign vessel for 15 to 18 to 10 to

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	volved, I approved. However, I cautioned Vernon to word the travel order in such a way
	that this would not be a precedent for other people to follow at will. Vernon also said
25X1A6a	that was quite unhappy about and critical of the handling of his departure by the
	Africa Division. I asked him to call and have a frank talk with him about
	this general subject.

LKW:mam